

## TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Submitted by Diane Stevens, Town Secretary

August 22, 2016

Present: Mr. John Goerlach, Chair  
Mr. Robert Ericson  
Mr. Henry Sayers  
Mr. Paul Sieloff, Town Manager

Warrants: Warrants Signed

The meeting was opened by John Goerlach at 6:00 p.m.

### Public Comment

None.

### Permit(s) / Contract(s) / Use of Town Property or Notification to Town of Community Event / Appointment(s)

#### **Economic Development Committee – David Vogel & Barb Hassan**

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with Citizen Interest Forms from David Vogel, Barb Hassan and Louise Conlan. Mr. Sieloff stated that the proposed Bylaws for the committee recommends five members. Mr. Ericson stated this was a good number as more members makes it difficult to schedule meetings. Motion 16-127. Motion made by John Goerlach to appoint David Vogel, Barb Hassan and Louise Conlan to the Economic Development Committee, seconded by Robert Ericson. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Sieloff stated that after the upcoming holiday he will try to appoint the remaining member and schedule the first meeting. [#1-3]

#### **Tree and Forest Committee – Karl Mick**

Mr. Sieloff presented Karl Mick to the Board. Tree and Forest Committee Chair James Neureuther stated that Mr. Mick had attended their last meeting and the Committee recommended him. Motion 16-126. Motion made by Henry Sayers to appoint Karl Mick to the Tree and Forest Committee, seconded by Robert Ericson. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Sieloff stated that Mr. Mick is also volunteering for the Town this summer. [#4]

### Berkshire Force 16U Team Babe Ruth World Series win

Coaches Doreen Voller and Mark Pierson presented the Berkshire Force 16U Babe Ruth Team to the Board. Mr. Goerlach welcomed the girls. Mrs. Voller stated that the team won the regionals in Charlestown, New Hampshire and that Ashley Keegan was voted MVP for the World Series. Mr. Pierson thanked the Board for recognizing the team and their accomplishment. The Board congratulated the team for their Babe Ruth World Series win and presented each player with a Certificate of Recognition.

### Orders of Taking / Narragansett Avenue Bridge Project Easements

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with a proposed Order of Taking relative to the Narragansett Avenue bridge project which was vetted by Town Counsel. Town Attorney Jeffrey Blake stated that donations have been made for all easement properties and this Order is the quickest and simplest way to take ownership of the properties. Motion 16-128. Motion made by Robert Ericson to vote to approve the Order of Taking, seconded by Henry Sayers. Motion carried 3-0. [#5]

### Street Light Safety Issue – 24 Baglee Avenue

Mr. Goerlach stated that he viewed the property in question. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Ericson if the second light on Baglee Avenue could be moved to the end of street to provide more light. Mr. Sayers believed it should be the homeowner's responsibility to add additional lighting for their property. Mr.

Goerlach asked if this light was originally red capped. Mr. Sayers stated that it was and no one contacted the Town to complain that the light was out. Mr. Goerlach asked Mr. Sieloff to contact the homeowner to say that the lights would remain as is. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would send a letter to the homeowner.

#### Economic Development Committee Bylaws

Mr. Ericson presented the remaining Board members with his recommended revisions to the Bylaws. The Board agreed with Mr. Ericson's recommendations. [#6]

#### Proposed Increase in Plumbing & Gas Fees – Commercial Properties

Mr. Sieloff informed the Board that this proposed increase was presented to them at their meeting on August 24, 2015 and it was decided at that time to revisit the proposed increase in the fee in one year. The current fee is \$55.00 per inspection and it is being proposed to increase that fee to \$100 for commercial properties only. Residential inspection fees will remain the same. Mr. Sayers stated that because of the High School debt exclusion tax increase he would like to revisit this item at another time. [#7]

#### Adjust amount for the LACTV Cable Commission Revolving Account

Mr. Sieloff updated the Board on the LACTV project. Mr. Sieloff stated that approximately \$18,000 has been expended on updating the equipment and that residents can now view meetings at any time on the Town's webpage. Mr. Sieloff further stated that with the increased Charter Communications services, franchise fees will also be increasing. Mr. Sieloff stated that there is still one piece of equipment at a cost of approximately \$3,500 that needs to be replaced. Mr. Sieloff informed the Board that PCTV currently charges the Town about \$300 per month to maintain the Local Access Station but he is in the process of negotiating with another entity to take over these services and with additional franchise revenues due to come in to the Town he believes the Town can update the remaining equipment and get the new entity in to take over PCTV services permanently. Mr. Sieloff told the Board he would have a more formal report by the next meeting. [#8]

#### Charter / Spectrum Installation Update

Mr. Sieloff stated that the Town has been receiving numerous phone calls and emails regarding residents having difficulties obtaining Charter services. Mr. Sieloff asked residents to have patience for the next 30 days or so for Charter to get to all residences. Mr. Ericson enlarged a map which depicts where services will be throughout Town. The map also depicts areas that will not receive services until 2017. Mr. Ericson stated that it will be left in the library for residents to view. Mr. Sayers advised residents to contact Town Hall if they were having any difficulties.

#### Other business which could not have been reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of the meeting.

None.

#### Selectmen's Items

None.

#### Town Manager Report

Mr. Sieloff stated that the recently appointed Town Accountant has decided to stay at his present job. The Town has an interim person helping out and the previous Town Accountant has agreed to stay on to close out the end of the year. Mr. Sieloff announced that the position was being re-advertised and anyone interested in the position with experience can contact the Town Secretary. Mr. Sieloff informed the Board that Ramblewild is having an event on August 27<sup>th</sup>. The event is being catered and alcohol will be served but he informed the Board that the establishment had called the Town to state that no alcohol will be served during the event.

### Approve Minutes

Motion made by Henry Sayers to approve the Minutes of July 25, 2016, seconded by Robert Ericson. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Henry Sayers to approve the Minutes of August 3, 2016, seconded by Robert Ericson. Motion carried 3-0. Motion made by Henry Sayers to approve the Minutes of August 8, 2016, seconded by Robert Ericson. Motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session to discuss the matters of Comm 2005-FL 10 Berkshire Mall LLC v Town of Lanesborough Board of Assessors; Comm 2005-FL 10 Berkshire Mall LLC v Town of Lanesborough Board of Assessors and the Baker Hill Road District currently before the Appellate Tax Board and the Comm 2005-FL 10 Berkshire Mall LLC v Town of Lanesborough Board of Assessors and Baker Hill Road District currently on appeal at the Massachusetts Appeals Court. Votes may be taken.

Motion by Robert Ericson at 6:44 p.m. to go into Executive Session to discuss the matters of Comm 2005-FL 10 Berkshire Mall LLC v Town of Lanesborough Board of Assessors; Comm 2005-FL 10 Berkshire Mall LLC v Town of Lanesborough Board of Assessors and the Baker Hill Road District currently before the Appellate Tax Board and the Comm 2005-FL 10 Berkshire Mall LLC v Town of Lanesborough Board of Assessors and Baker Hill Road District currently on appeal at the Massachusetts Appeals Court. Votes may be taken and the Chair declares that to discuss in open session would be detrimental to the Town's litigation position in these matters and to take no action after the Executive Session, seconded by Henry Sayers. Motion carried 3-0. Mr. Ericson, aye Mr. Sayers, aye and Mr. Goerlach, aye.

### Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Robert Ericson, seconded by Henry Sayers. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

#### Footnotes:

- [#1] Citizen Interest Form – David Vogel
- [#2] Citizen Interest Form – Barb Hassan
- [#3] Citizen Interest Form – Louise Conlan
- [#4] Citizen Interest Form – Karl Mick
- [#5] Orders of Taking – Narragansett Avenue Bridge Project Easements
- [#6] Proposed Economic Development Committee Bylaws
- [#7] Proposed Increase to Plumbing & Gas Fees
- [#8] LACTV Cable Commission Revolving Account